

CAMILLA C. A. PONCE.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 633.]

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APRIL 13, 1860.

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Mr. BOULIGNY, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, made the following

REPORT.

*The Committee on Private Land Claims, to whom was referred the petition of Camilla C. A. Ponce, have had the same under consideration, and report:*

It appears that Joseph E. Sanchez, of the State of Florida, having served in the Florida militia which was called into service by the United States, became entitled to a bounty of one hundred and sixty acres of land under the act of September 28, 1850; the warrant was not, however, issued to him before his death, but was subsequently issued in favor of his son and only child, Nicholas Sanchez; it bore date the 29th day of March, 1859, and was issued upon proof filed in November 23, 1852. Nicholas Sanchez died, it seems, on the 20th of June of that year, and was of course deceased when the warrant was issued. He died a minor and unmarried, and his mother has since intermarried with Bartholo D. Ponce.

The only question in the case is, whether the United States shall enforce the rights of the minor Nicholas Sanchez on account of the non-fulfilment of the formalities prescribed by the act of 1850, or permit his surviving mother to benefit by inheriting his estate. To do so would, in the opinion of your committee, savor of harshness and be contrary to the liberal spirit of legislation under which the law of 1850 granting lands as bounty to those who had rendered military service to the country, or to their legal representatives, was enacted.

The committee, therefore, recommend that the prayer of the petitioner be granted, and report a bill for her relief.

